

A

REVIEW

OF THE

STATE

OF THE

ENGLISH NATION.

Saturday, October 5. 1706.

WHat have these Scriblers, these Reviews, Observators, and Pamphleteers to do with this Union, *say the People now, who would have nothing said nor nothing done in it?* What have they to do with it, *say they?* Has not the QUEEN order'd nothing shall be printed or written about it, and are not these Libels as fatal to a general Union, as any thing?

To this I answer, If Her Majesty has prohibited them writing against it, reproaching, libelling it, &c. there has been good Reason for it; and the Nature of the Opposers of it being to villifie and raise Scandals upon every thing now acted on the Stage by the present Ministry and Government, it is absolutely necessary to let the Parry know, what they are to expect on that Head.

But it does not follow from hence, that we must not open the Eyes of those, who are blind in this Affair; a Man must not call a Woman a Whore, but he is not thereby prohibited calling her by her right Name; tho' I may not libel and buffoon the Union in Print, I hope, I may set it forth in its true Light, and illustrate it by its proper Qualities; tho' I may not speak against it, I may speak for it, I may defend, explain and describe it, that the Eyes of the ignorant being inlightned, they may see plainly the true Interest of their Native Country, and may joya their Interest with other honest People to promote and advance it.

Nor is this my only Authority for undertaking this Work; Have not the Judges given them in charge to represent the Advantages

vantages of this Union to the Nation, in their several Circuits, and in their Meetings of the Gentry, Justices and Juries; that the Freeholders of *England* may have their Understandings clear'd up to the general Interest, and be set right in the Knowledge of their own Advantages? Have not the *House of Commons* in charge to promote the general Peace of their respective Countries? Has not the *QUEEN* recommended it to both Nations, as the great thing now on the Wheel for their mutual Advantage? Has not Her Majesty on all Occasions shown her Satisfaction in the Success of its Proceedings, as far as it has already gone; and why is the *QUEEN* so earnest in this Matter, but that as the General Mother of her People, Her Majesty sees the just, the great, the mutual Advantages of all her Subjects of both Nations in it, sees Safety, Strength, Trade, Wealth, and above all Religion both increas'd and secur'd by it.

And let no Man wonder, that I put *them all in*; I make no Question to prove, in Opposition to all Cavil, *Party Objection*, and private Quarrelling Interest; that a Union with *Scotland* shall be so far from encroaching on our Trade, that it *shall improve it*; so far from injuring our Manufactures, that it shall extend and *enlarge them*; so far from lowering our Wages, and taking the Work from the hands of our Poor, that it shall *increase it*. *Scotland* shall be so far from pouring her Shoals of People upon us, as some call it, and encroaching upon our People; that growing opulent in Trade, and improving in Manufactures, they shall want People for their Works, and their Increase shall be our Wealth.

I shall shew the Interest of both Nations, so interwoven with one another, and so advanc'd by the Union, that it shall be hard to distinguish, which are greater Gainers by the Union; both shall grow rich, great, populous, and powerful; both increase in Trade, both fall upon new Improvements; there shall be Trade without Rivalry, Strength without Jealousie, and Wealth without Envy; there shall be a general Emulation of Gain, but no Emulation of Strife, a new and vast Ocean of Wealth; and Trade shall

be laid open in the *North*, and the *English* shall shew the *Scots* how to sail in it, *help them* to steer to their own Advantage, and share that Advantage with them. The *Scots* shall see it their Interest to call in *that Help*, and be convinc'd they cannot do without it.

To state the *Scots*, as *Rivals* to *England* in Trade, is to assume a Knowledge without giving any Reason for it; they can no way rival you, no way encroach upon you, nor no way trade without you.

In the Process of these Papers, I shall enter farther into these Points, and I make no question to prove to the general Satisfaction, that upon the opening our Trade, which these Gentlemen say, must be done upon a Union, and perhaps 'tis true, we shall open our Trade to them; yet all our Trade shall be better'd by them, not lessen'd, afflicted, not injur'd; they shall have Room to Trade, and at the same time we shall have Helps in our Trade, which without this Union we want.

In short, our Trade shall be better'd by our Union with them, they shall trade with us to the same Ports, Colonies, and Plantations; and we be not at all the less encourag'd to trade, nor have any Branch of our Trade taken away.

I know, this shall pass for a Paradox, I know, this is an Help to those People, who study all the Ways they can to expose the Union; who study to make our People uneasy at it, and to fill them with Apprehensions, that the *Scots* by falling into our Manufactures and Plantation Trade, will impoverish, grow upon us, take away the Bread from our Poor, ruin our Manufactures, and rob us of the Capital; that they will run into Colonies, supplant our Merchants, and enrich themselves out of the Ruin of our foreign Trade.

If in the Prosecution of these Heads, I prove, that our Colonies shall be better'd by them, and we no way impoverish'd; if I prove they can make no Encroachment on us, but shall on the contrary be advantageous to us even in Trade.

If I prove, that they cannot, nor will not if they could, invade our Home Trade; that they are not qualified in Circumstances to fall upon our Manufactures; that in its Nature

Nature it is not practicable, in its Consequences not advantageous, in its Exercise not possible.

If I prove, that their Poor cannot out-work ours, nor under-work them, that we can do more Work for less Money, than in any Part of Scotland; nay, if I should advance our seeming Paradox, *viz.* That our People, where our principal Manufactures are made, now actually work for less Wages than the Scots.

If I prove, that the Union will make the Scots rich, without making us poor; that their Wealth will subserve our Interests, and our Wealth theirs; that their Increase shall be our Advantage, as our Conjunction shall be the Cause of their Increase; that we shall bring the Scots up to us, and not bring us down to them.

If all these things are made out in pursuing this Undertaking, I hope, this Bugbear of a Union will be a little less frightful to some People; who pretend to see strange terrible things behind it, who prophesie Inundations of Scots among us in every Branch of our Trade, and that our Islands and Colonies will be all carry'd away a Horseback to Edinburgh.

Some have run up their foolish Apprehensions in this Case to such Heights, that one would think all our *Burhades, Virginia, and Jamaica* Fleet should in time be unladen at *Leith*, and the *Merca-Cross* at *Edinburgh* rival the Exchange at *London*.

Had not these People something else in Pursuit, they could not put their Absurdities upon the World, they would blush at their Inconsistency, and be ashamed to appear to Suggestions so scandalously weak, and so contradictory to the true Interest of both Nations.

My Design is in these Papers, to show the mutual Advantages to either side in the Union on Foot; that there is a Union of Consequences, as well as a Union of League; and as I cannot separate them in the Concessions on both sides; so they cannot be separated in the Advantages which shall accrue; and this I question not to make good in the Sequel of this Debate.

But previous to this, I am coming to enquire, who are the People that malign this Union; from what Principle, with what Design, how weak the Foundation, and how wicked the Superstructure.

MISCELLANEA.

I Cannot but esteem it a Happiness both to me, and to this Work in general; that this Paper, as I now divide it, has such a Juncture to appear in, such a happy Minute, such a Conjunction in Subject, as no Man could ever have the like, *viz.* To talk in the same Breath, of Union at home, and Victory abroad.

Were ever two such Subjects brought into one Paper, Volumes might be spent on each Head, and they are both so fruitful in Speculation, that I could touch nothing in the World so copious, so extensive, so prodigious.

Nor is it too mean to observe, that the Pleasantness of one Subject will be assistant to the Intricacy of the other; 'tis like Muck to a Dance, that helps the Feet to keep

Measure, and makes the Motion regular and harmonious in its Nature—There is a Sort of a Chime in the Subjects, they hit together, and the Pleasure of one adds to the Beauty of the other. Are we talking of Union, Gentlemen, see the Effects of it abroad, VICTORY! What greater Encouragement to unite at home, than the Success of Union abroad?

What has brought down the French Power? What has given you three such Victories, as no Prince in the World, but *Lewis XIV.* could support himself under? 'Tis all from UNION, nothing could have reduc'd this Monarch, but united Europe? What could bring him to Reason, who was too strong for any single Power in the World, nothing but UNION?

'Tis